

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons that follow.

New claims 43-60 have been added.

This amendment adds, changes and/or deletes claims in this application. A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the application, irrespective of whether the claim(s) remain under examination in the application, is presented, with an appropriate defined status identifier.

After amending the claims as set forth above, claims 1-60 are now pending in this application.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-11, 17-19, 36, 37, and 38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 7,130,743 (hereafter “Kudo et al.”). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Amended claim 1 recites a method of automatically providing traffic information to a user’s vehicle, comprising: tracking and storing travel pattern data of the user, the travel pattern data including a time at which a travel occurs, analyzing the travel pattern data to predict a particular travel path traveled by the user at a particular time when the travel occurs and automatically determining traffic information along the particular travel path at or before the particular time at which travel is predicted by communicating with a second vehicle to receive the traffic information, wherein at least part of the traffic information originates from a source other than the second vehicle. Claims 2-11, 17-19, and 38 depend from claim 1. Claims 36 and 37 include similar language.

Kudo et al. discloses an information providing device and method. As noted by the Office on page 4 of the Office Action, Kudo et al. discloses traffic information to communicated to a user’s vehicle via a server that provides information in response to a

request from the car navigation system 1 and a network 3, e.g., the internet, for connecting the car navigation system 1 and the server 2. See Kudo et al. at col. 5, lines 48-57; Figures 1, 10, 12, 15, 19, 24, 27, and 29. Kudo et al. does not disclose a method or system for automatically providing traffic information to a user's vehicle in which the user's vehicle communicates with a second vehicle to receive traffic information. Instead, Kudo et al. discloses a vehicle system that communicates with a server 2 to receive traffic information. Therefore, Kudo et al. does not disclose all of the features of claims 1-11, 17-19, 36, 37, and 38. Withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 12-14, 20-35, and 39-41 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kudo et al. This rejection is respectfully traversed. Claim 20 includes language similar to the language of claim 1. Claims 21-35 and 39-41 depend from claim 20.

It would not have been obvious to modify the method of Kudo et al. to provide the methods, systems, and computer readable medium of claims 1, 20, 36, and 37. A basic requirement of a *prima facie* case of obviousness is that a prior art reference, or prior art references when combined, must teach or suggest all of the claim limitations. See M.P.E.P. §§ 2143, 2143.03. Kudo et al. does not disclose or suggest all of the features of claims 1, 20, 36, and 37 because Kudo et al. does not disclose or suggest automatically providing traffic information to a user's vehicle in which the user's vehicle communicates with a second vehicle to receive traffic information. Therefore, it would not have been obvious to modify the teachings of Kudo et al. to provide all of the features of claims 1, 20, 36, and 37.

The Office asserts on page 6 of the Office Action that it would require only routine skill in the art to communicate traffic information to another vehicle. However, Kudo et al. does not disclose or suggest a system in which a user's vehicle communicates with a second vehicle to receive traffic information, nor does the Office provide any evidence in the prior art that communicating traffic information between vehicles would have been obvious. The Office appears to take Official Notice in regard to the feature of communicating between vehicles. Applicant respectfully submits that the features of claims 1-41 are not commonly

known or disclosed in the prior art relied upon by the Office. Applicant respectfully requests that the Office provide prior art to show these features or withdraw the rejection. See M.P.E.P. § 2144.03.

For at least the reasons discussed above, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant gratefully acknowledges the allowance of claim 42.

New Claims

New claims 43-53 have been added. Claim 43 includes language similar to claim 42. Claims 44 and 46 depend from claim 1; claims 45, 47, 50, and 52 depend from claim 20; claims 48, 51, and 53 depend from claim 36; and claim 49 depends from claim 37.

Applicant respectfully submits that claims 43-60 are allowable over the prior for at least the reasons discussed above. Furthermore, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 43-60 recite methods and systems not disclosed or suggested by the prior art.

Applicant believes that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

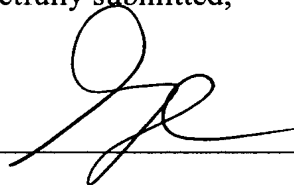
The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check or credit card payment form being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicants hereby petition for

such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

By

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'GL' or similar, written over a horizontal line.

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